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Crucis of a Central
American Republic

VICTIMS OF THE
President of Guatemala

Junta Libertadora

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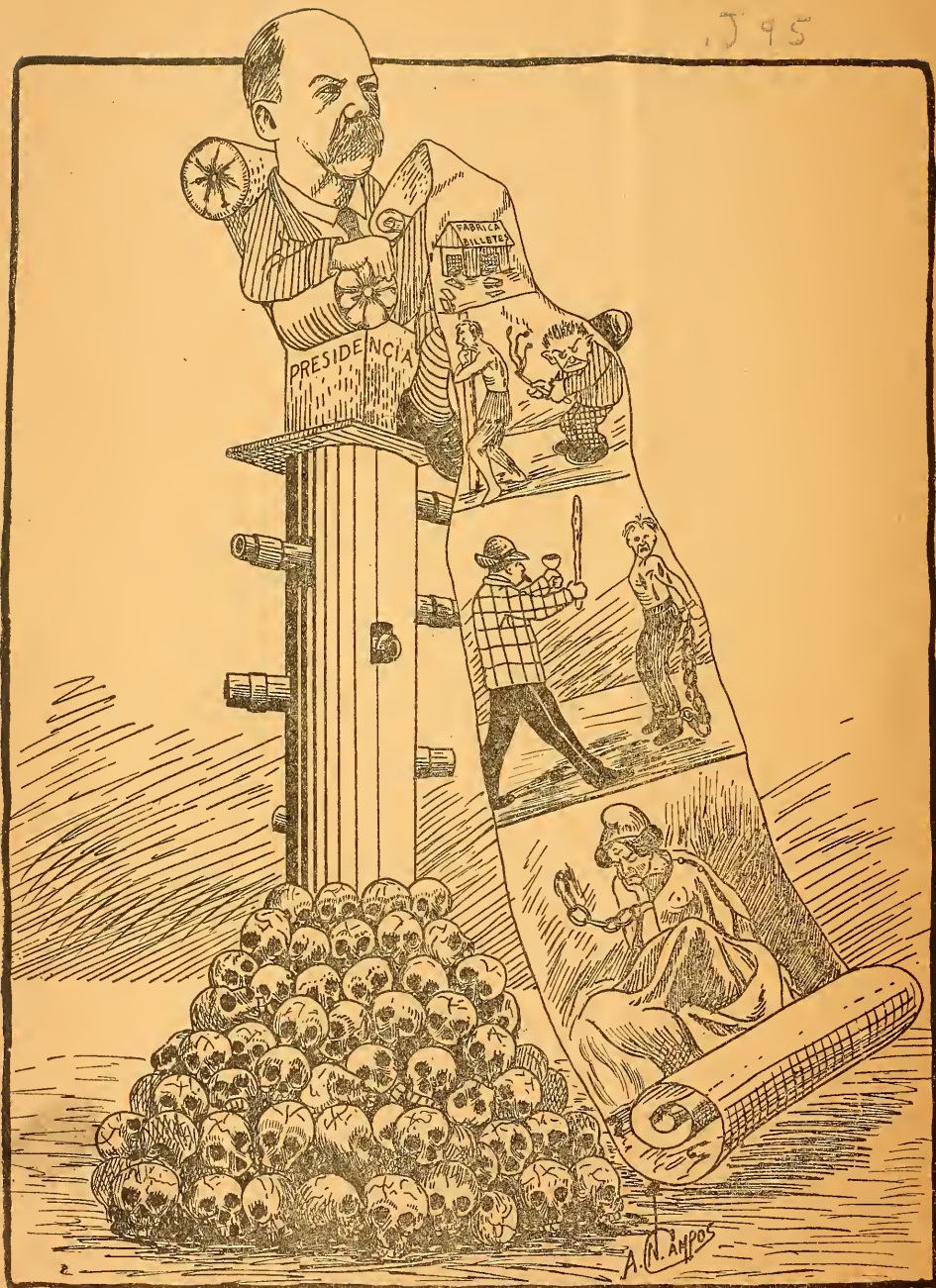
Crucis of a Central American Republic



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President of Guatemala

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SEP 25 1922

PROLOGUE.

The rumors reaching us from every corner of Central America, in a manner clearly denoting a lamentable protestation, assure us of the fact that the mandatory of the unfortunate Republic of Guatemala, Manuel Estrada Cabrera, is hastily making ready to effect his fourth re-election to the magistracy of that country, and, laboring under such impressions, the reader can easily imagine the pseudo-pantomime, or dumb-show, which awaits a helpless people, who, indeed, deserve better days, by forcing to the ballot box disguised, destitute Indians, the armed soldiers of the nation and the gentle citizens, who will, no doubt, go to the polls "voluntarily," under the pressure of the lash and the threatening point of the bayonet.

By the time the coup d'état begins to take the form of reality we shall have our pens in line ready to strike at this fallacious election, and in the meantime we shall take pleasure in giving a full account, in the extensive English language, of the ignominious and celebrated personage who actually occupies our minds, so that here, in the United States proper, the people may arrive at their own conclusion, no matter how remote, of the caliber and instinct of the ruler of Guatemala.

As the reader turns over these pages, he shall read of the "victims of Estrada Cabrera," accusing vehemently the horrible situation of Guatemala and the painful via-crucis the country has been going through for a period of seventeen years of semipiternal terrorism.

It is a well-known fact that Estrada Cabrera has unscrupulously extinguished and entirely ruined our foreign credit. He has in the same way emptied the public treasury by transferring the cash to places of his own selection; he has brought the standard of the nation so far low a exchange as sixty to one, and has converted our institutions of learning into regular centers of corruption and espionage. He has granted to foreigners the mines of the country under all sorts of concessions, regardless of the intrinsic rights of third persons. However, he has, in turn, presented us with his generous instinct in the persons of the widows and orphans, who sadly weep for the surreptitious disappearance of their beloved one, and, as a culmination to his heroic achievement, he has erected numerous necropolis for the interment of his defenseless victims. It is also a plain truth that he has brought his hegemony and state of terror to bear upon the neighboring republics of Central America, trampling upon their last remaining vertiges of independence and liberty. He has to-day an army composed of his degenerated followers, who know no pay day, it being a matter of regret to notice how foreign visitors are shocked on seeing them shoeless, hungry and ragged, exchanging their sword for nourishment and at the same time hiding with shame their worn-out uniforms. He has substituted the legislative and the judicial bodies with herds of eunuchs, who enjoy themselves in depriving their fellow-beings of their honest belongings, disguised, for the purpose, under the dignified purple of the Goddess of Themis; and the fact shall not escape us that instead of making use of the invulnerable sons of the land for honest purposes and the aggrandisement of the country, Cabrera employs the unworthy services of degenerated foreigners in order to obtain his ends; and, it is a salient truth, that by means of servile promises made to the Department of State at Washington in former administrations (for, it shall be known that Mr. Wilson—the altruist master—has never and will never utilize the corrupted element of Cabrera), he succeeded in shaking his bloody hand with that of Mr. Knox, thus silencing, in effusive pact, the disorder of things and state of terror in which for a period of seventeen years of agony he has kept the Republic of Guatemala—a fruitful accomplishment which justify the flatterers-by-trade in calling him the "sublime exalted ruler," when not classifying him as the direct descendant of Charles V.

It is likewise an incontrovertible fact, the truthfulness of which jumps to the eye, that the execrable candidate in question leaves behind neither industries, monuments, public roads, navy nor wealth, but in turn he leaves us a Guatemala wrapped in a regrettable sudarium. In order that the reader may not think we are laboring under a passionate inspiration in expressing these opinions, we refer him to any of the publications inserted below, which have been seeing the light in various languages throughout the civilized world and from the columns of which they have commented, with impartiality, the countless errors and aberrations of his administration, and very particularly the crimes thus far perpetrated in the persons of subjects who dared to express opinions contrary to those of the "Benemerito" of Guatemala, or else who refused to accede to his will when the same would have compromised their dignity and probity.

The consummated facts herein referred to have been, as already stated, thor-

oughly ventilated, reproduced and rudely censored by the press in general, and it is on this account the thousand-and-one publications we have now in our possession, to make use of in due time, when the day of judgment for Cabrera before the civilized nations shall appear in the eye of universal history. These publications have been mostly written in French and Spanish and are hardly known in English, for which reason we have concluded to issue this pamphlet in this language, so that the generous and noble people of the United States of America, where the cradle of democracy swings full blast, where liberty rings over hills and dales to the remotest corner of the land, where justice and human life is so much respected and venerated; here, where the germ of despotism finds only sterile ground for development, and where the culprit is abhorred and duly punished—may know who is the tyrant of Guatemala, who still pretends to re-elect himself for six years longer to the Presidency of that country, where the candid and peace-loving people stand to-day friends of the United States of America.

The publications referred to are: "El Reconcentrado," a daily newspaper of Cuba, published in Cienfuegos; "La Patria," a weekly paper, published in Mexico; "El Correo Mexicano," a weekly paper, published in Los Angeles, Cal.; "Blanco y Rojo," a daily, of Granada, Nicaragua; "El Diario del Hogar," a daily publication of Mexico City; "La Gaceta de Guadalajara," published in Jalisco, Mexico; "El Universo," daily, published in Mexico; "El Pais," of Managua, Nicaragua; "La Estrella de Granada," of Granada, of Granada, Nicaragua; "La Informacion," of San Jose, Costa Rica; "El Noticiero," of Costa Rica; "La Republica," daily, of Costa Rica; "La Tribuna," of Managua, Nicaragua; "La Revista Latino Americana"; "Pagina Negra," a pamphlet subscribed to by several citizens of Central America, giving the crimes committed by Cabrera in full details; also a pamphlet published by Colonel D. Felipe Pineda; "America," an illustrated review published in Brussels, Belgium; "La Opinion," a weekly, published in New Orleans, La.; "El Herald de la Habana," Cuba; "La Prensa Libre," San Jose, Costa Rica; "La Estrella de Panama," Panama; "El Comercio," Salvador, Rep. of El Salvador; "El Independiente," Rep. of El Salvador; "The New Orleans Item," New Orleans, La.; "The Picayune," New Orleans, La.; "The Times-Democrat," New Orleans, "Pan-American Review" and "La Revista Comercial Americana," both of New Orleans, La. Papers published in Germany, Italy, and France, also newspapers published in London, Barcelona, Spain; Madrid, New York, San Francisco, the Republics of Argentine, Ecuador, Peru, Colombia and Porto Rico. In finale, the whole sane and independent press of the world at large have filled their columns with the horrible dictatorship established by Estrada Cabrera in Guatemala during his seventeen years as President through his peculiar system of terror.

After reading this account, what opinion will the Government of Washington form of he, who, in pretending his re-election, after seventeen years of terrorism, for a period of six years long, will once more grossly violate the treaties of Washington of 1908.

We are not ready to believe at this time that in this occasion the hopes of the people of Guatemala will be frustrated. The Republics of Central America have full confidence in the precious words expressed by Mr. Wilson in the city of Mobile to the effect that "he will only recognize those governments emanating from the free will of the people," and they sincerely trust that the meaning of these words will never be carried away by the strength of a passionate wind, but will, on the contrary, serve as a full translation and practical expression of the political doctrine of Mr. Wilson, with which he has already won the sympathies and admiration of the Latin-American countries.

JUNTA LIBERTADORA.

New York, November, 1914.

PRESIDENT CABRERA'S VICTIMS.

Although Juvenal, and a good many others, as well as the worldly press, have published the names of some of the victims of Manuel Cabrera, we cannot help but to recount those names and complete the list by adding the names of murdered persons that they did not know of, with the exception of the names of his wife, his son and his brothers: Here are the names of the victims:

Ldo Sinforoso Aguilar, first mayor of the City of Quezaltenango, and Mr. John Aparicio. Congressman Rosendo Sta Cruz, murdered in prison in Tactic while sleeping. This crime horrified everybody, but could not be averted notwithstanding all the efforts made to save him by the strong and powerful German Colony in Coban. The notorious Juan Barrios M, together with Julio Godoy, Samuel de Leon and Juan Rafael Zuñiga were Cabrera's appointed executioners. In order to make himself more favorably known to the chief executioner, the latter of the trio of murderers kicked the dead man in the face, calling him all the bad names that only a man of his bred could know. Several people witnessed this, among them Mr. Jose Maria Meza of Nicaragua, who is living in his country now, after having been a prisoner for a long time in Guatemala. His crime was that he witnessed this murder and that was enough for Cabrera to put him into prison. A friend of his, Mr. Wm. Ibs, the foreign representative of the St. Charles Hotel in New Orleans, who was at the time of the imprisonment and the murder of Mr. St. Cruz employed in one of the large German firms at Coban, also testifies to the truth of what we have said about this foul murder of Sta Cruz. The notorious Juan Barrios M. was made Minister of foreign affairs as a reward for his part in this crime.

Ex-Congressman, Jose Maria Urbizo, shot near El Chato, where he was sent by Cabrera with a military escort under Capt. Dionisio Gutierrez, who made Urbizo walk twelve miles barefooted over a rocky road, helping him along with Bayonnette and Butt, until they arrived at the spot selected for the execution, where the half-dead and blood-covered victim was finally shot to death. Then the soldiers tied the hands and the feet of the corps over a post and threw it into a nearby ravine to serve as a meal for the yacals and turkey buzzards. Miguel Cuadra of Nicaragua, just happened to pass near the spot at the time of the execution, and attracted by the rifle shots, he witnessed the whole gruesome performance. The Mayor of El Chato, who heard of this murder and though it the outcome of a drunken brawl, reported the matter to Cabrera; but the Mandatory told the astonished Mayor: "If you don't dismiss this matter quick from your mind, you will go over the same road that Urbizó did." The crime of this unfortunate young man, had consisted of some complimentary verses about Jose Leon Castillo.

General Jose Maria Reyna Barrios, murdered by Oscar Zollinger at the suggestion of Cabrera as the worldly press has denounced.

Dr. Manuel Enrique Araujo, President of El Salvador, killed by means of Machetes in the Park Bolivar in the City of San Salvador. The murderers confessed and were shot by the government of Salvador.

General Manuel Lisandro Barillas, Ex-President of Guatemala, murdered in the City of Mexico by two persons sent from Guatemala and selected for this purpose by two well known military men, General Jose Maria Lima and Col. Onofre Bone. After having confessed all they were told to do by Cabrera, the Mexican Government had these two fellows shot.

One hundred boy students of the military school of Guatemala, who were slaughtered on the Plaza de Armas of Guatemala City, for the only reason that during a diplomatic reception, one of the boys fired a shot at Cabrera, whom he unfortunately did not kill. Under the pretext of this one shot, that he called a conspiracy, Cabrera had then a lot of his political prisoners shot whom he suspected to be in the plot with Manuel Mandriñan, who placed the bomb in the 7 Avenida Sur that exploded right

under Cabrera's coach, but unfortunately did not kill him. The iron box that was a part of this bomb, was made for Mandriñan in the shop of Tinetti Bros, two Italians, who did not even ask him what he wanted this box for. Nevertheless, they were imprisoned, and it took the Italian Government fourteen months to get them out of Cabrera's jail. The names of the people shot in prison during this carnage of Cabrera's are: Engineer Eduardo Rubio Piloña, excandidate for the Presidency of Guatemala; Dr. and Gral. Mateo, F. Morales; Dr. Francisco Ruiz; Mr. Juan Viteri, Col. Manuel P. Cordova and Fulgencio Cortez, and the Italian Signor Vinelli.

In the City of Antigua there were executed: Mr. Enrique Aceña; Col. Sarvelio Solorzano; Pedro Cofiño; Rafael Vides; Ramon Palencia and others whose names we ignore.

During those days, four of the sons of the best families of the country, were suspected as accomplices in the bomb plot and under persecution of a lot of policemen, they fled into a house in the Callejon de Judios. Here they were immediately surrounded by 500 soldiers and, after having received their toll, they shot each other to death in order not to fall into the hands of Cabrera, where unspeakable torture awaited them as they knew only too well; they were: Julio Valdez Blanco, Baltasar Rodil, Jorge Avila Echeverria and his brother Jose Avila Echeverria. A priest of the Sto Domingo church and Joaquin Mendez, the actual Guatemalan Minister in Washington, denounced these young men to Cabrera and are, in that way, responsible for their murder.

A few days before this murder, Mr. Manuel Lopez Cojullun, President of the Workmen's Club, was flogged to death by the Capt. of Police, Ramon Bonilla, who some years before, had murdered General Martin Barrundia. Cabrera, by a special arrangement, listened to the killing of Mr. Cojullun, over the telephone, without loosing a single detail of this terrible murder; for Cabrera had given his murderer most explicit orders to open Cojullun's mouth and to administer poison to him. When Cojullun objected to this, Cabrera's beast took his heavy police club and started to beat the man literally to death. First he broke all the man's teeth, then his arms, legs and ribs, until the unfortunate man was nothing but a groaning mass of bloody flesh and broken bones, and—the President of Guatemala, Manuel Cabrera, the BENEMERITO of the country—listened to all this and enjoyed it, as the pervert that he is.

General Plutarco Bowen, kidnapped in Tapachula Mexico, by Hippolito Lamber, a Frenchman, and some other of Cabrera's Bailiffs, and brought on Guatemalan soil, where he was shot in the City of San Marcos, after the second amnesty had been declared. When about to be executed, Bowen made a few brief remarks, ending like this: "I am going to my grave now, because I hate a tyrant; and if on the other side of the grave, there are also tyrants, I shall fight them again as I have done here on Earth."

General Calixto Mendizabal was murdered by Cabrera himself. After he had been offered a glass of Cabrera's famous Cock Tail, he died a few hours later from the effects of the poison contained in his drink.

Mr. Rafael Prado Romaño and his brother, Ldo Transito Rojas, shot in Jutiapa together with his young fifteen-year-old-boy. This murder of a father and his innocent boy was an awful sad thing. The father is said to have pleaded earnestly and long with Cabrera's murderers, to content themselves with taken his own life, but to spare the life of an innocent child that could not possibly have known anything about politics. He pleaded in vain and he might as well have addressed stone figures, as to expect mercy of any of Cabrera's hirelings. When at last this horrible fact dawned upon the unfortunate father, he embraced his young boy, imploring him to die a brave lad, and calling down the ire of God upon his murderers, the father and his boy fell dead under the hail of bullets fired at them by Cabrera's murderers. Cabrera was told this sad story and he is said to have gloated over it for weeks in brutish satisfaction. And this man is to-day a friend of Mr. Knox and the famous Mr. Sulzer of New York.

Ldo Mariano Castillo, Luis Antonio Giron, General Eugenio Monterosso, Col. Transito Retana, murdered on the frontier of Salvador, Francisco Carrascosa, shot in El

Plantanar by Gen. Larrave, who showed his sorrow for having been ordered to shoot this brave young lad who braved the tyrant until his death, by cursing the tyranny—for this—wherever he went.

Dr. Antonio Lopez who was poisoned by orders of Cabrera in Tapachula Mexico.

Bruno Maldonado, who was taken from the prison and given instructions by Cabrera to murder Ex-President Barillas; but Maldonado warned Barillas of this plot and gave him a chance to flee. He then returned to Cabrera with the story that Barillas had escaped him, and Cabrera had him immediately flogged to death, as he has done with many others that did not follow his instructions to the letter.

Dr. Hermelino Quezada, a Mexican, shot in Coatepeque; Mr. Heraclio R. Trejo, shot in San Marcos; Mr. Victor Fenjier, shot in El Rodeo; Mr. Adrian Victoria, shot in Techulután; Mr. Alberto Lallande, Mr. Gaudencia Morales, murdered in El Rancho de San Augustin; Mr. Doroteo Reyes, murdered in San Pablo; Mr. Guadeloupe Chacon, murdered in San Marcos; Mr. Martin Muñoz, shot in Ayautla; Mr. Guillermo Garcia, shot in El Cucho, near San Marcos; Roberto Bermudez from Nicaragua, shot in San Marcos; Capt. Desiderio Castellanos, Luis Felipe Arias, a famous musician, murdered by an Italian agent of Cabrera; Capt. Aquilino Carillo, Pablo Pais, Venancia Villagran; Ldo Jose Pablo Velasquez, Victoriano Garcia, Sargeant Santiago Zuñiga, Ciriaco Muñoz, Juan Rodriguez, Luciano Flores, all these were shot on the same day, in the City of Jutiapa. The soldier, Juan Cúte, assistant of General S. Toledo, shot in Comapa; Desiderio Lopez and Federico Muñoz, shot in Esquipulas; Ramon Morales and Franco Chavarria, shot in Asuncion Mita; Perfecto Piztun, shot in the City of Guatemala; Filadelfo Pais, shot in Ayutla, after the second Amnesty; Pio Ponce, shot in Puerto Barrios by Augustin Acevedo, after the third amnesty; Cadet Antonio Zuñiga, shot in Jutiapa; Benjamin Solis, after the third amnesty; this man had to wait and see his murderers dig his own grave; Mr. Mariano Cruz, murdered in the fort of San Jose, because he dared to convey to Cabrera the misery of the people; Emilio Rodas, shot with two of his friends in Soloma; Francisco Fodosqui and murdered in Malacatan; two unknown men shot in Esquipulas by Capt. Manuel Duarte; two men killed in Atescatem by a certain Hill, one of the American Agents of Cabrera; 13 murdered in Ocos by Capt. Teofilo Meoño (among these men were several Mexicans); 28 men shot in various places of the department of Zacapa by the Capt. of the flying squad of Cabrera's murderers, Albert Lallande, a native of Louisiana and well known, as the most particular murderer of Cabrera; 30 men shot in the department of Sta Rosa by Col. Silverio Herrarte and Felix de Leon; 32 shot in Malactán by Ex-Capt. Manuel Sosa (most of these men were Mexicans); Adolfo Argueta, clubbed to death in the Central Penitentiary; Inocente Resinos, shot by the local Capt. of Quezatepeque, department of Chiquimula; Augustin Barrera, clubbed to death in one of Cabrera's prisons, because he had made the remark that as customhouse inspector, he could tell a good deal about the steals of the Government. In Mazatenango, Cabrera had the commanding officer and with him seven men shot for rebellion and sedition; Neftali Palomeque a Mexican shot by Cabrera's order, because he protected Guatemalan refugees on Mexican soil; Manuel Diaz, for having distributed some pamphlets during the Presidential elections that favored J. Leon Castillo. Mr. Bernardo Lemus from Salvador; Presbitero Beltran, shot in the church of San Francisco by a certain Mendoza, inspector of police, who latter on confessed to this crime during an operation, while under the influence of chloroform; Jaime Lopez from Salvador, shot in San Marcos; Ernesto Huerta, shot in Sta Rosa, by Col. Silverio Herrarte; five Mexicans and one Colombian with the name of Vallarino, shot in the port of San Jose by the Capt. of the port, Salvador Cabrera, who had the corpses thrown into the sea, with the exception of Vallarino, whom they did not see on account of the dark night and who was still alive and was able to hide under the wharf. Villarino made this crime public and died in the penitentiary; Primencio Aguirre, shot in El Chaguite de Agua Blanca by Capt. Cleofas Paredes; Luis Espino, shot in the Sta Catarina by Capt. Benjamin Martinez; Lt. Carlos

Garcia shot in Jutiapa; Adolfo Garcia, shot in Sta Catarina by Cap^t. Mercedes Aldana; Col. Tiburcio Resinos, killed by orders of the Capt. of Jutiapa, through a criminal with the name of Saturnio Orellana, in Salvador; Saturnino was pardoned for nine murders that he had committed and also made a sargeant on the police force of Jutiapa; Celso Martinez and his brother Francisco shot near lake Ayarza, after having received about 1,500 lashes each for several weeks; Aquilino Sandoval, shot by Pauline Quintana through orders of General Resinos of Jutiapa; Jesus Argueta, shot by orders of Gen. David Barrientos in Jalapa; Francisco Guzman Montenegro shot by Col. Roman Lucero, Commander in Monjas; Fernando Chinchilla, shot by Ezequiel Morales in Calderas de Agua Blanca, through orders of the Commander of Jutiapa; Alberto Cantoral, who was given up by the government of Salvador and then murdered in Jutiapa by Capt. Marcial Leiva; Felipe Telly, shot at the frontier of Salvador when he was handed over to Cabrera's soldiers; 18 men shot at Momotenango, Dr. Joaquin Yela, very important man, killed in the penitentiary, and lately, Ldo D. Manuel Paz, starved to death.

POISONED:

General Calixto Mendizabal, Felipe Cruz, poisoned on his plantation by two men sent from the City of Guatemala; Gen. Luis Garcia Leon, Dr. Jose Montoya, Dr. Antonio Lopez, Col. Roque Morales, Wenceslao Chacon, Juan Espino and Antonio Espino, poisoned on the same day by Gen. Doroteo Resinos, in the jail of Jutiapa, and then reported by him as having died suddenly; Francisco Cabrera, the President's own brother, Landetino Gonzales and others.

PERSECUTED AND MURDERED ABROAD.

Gen. Pedro Aguilar, Col. Mateo Paz Pinto, Capt. Jacinto J. Castro, Mr. Eugenio Gonzalez, Mr. Flavio Sandoval, Mrs. Elena de Cuellar, Mrs. Soledad Valladares, and Col. Manuel F. Rivera. All these are Cabrera's victims in Salvador.

Capt. Julian Belteton, Gen. Jose Najera, Col. Jose Maria Navas, Lt. Julio Molta, Felix Lainfiesta, Capt. Jesus Villeda, all these were Cabrera's victims in Honduras.

Ldos. Emilio de Leon, Laureano Urrutia, J. Maria Urrutia y Guzman, victims of Cabrera, in Mexico; Ldo Miguel Vaeladares de la Vega in Nicaragua.

Lds. J. F. Gonzalez, Mr. Juan F. Ponciano, Mardoqueo Jerez, Socorro Lopez, Capt. J. Cifuentes. All these were Cabrera's victims in Nicaragua.

Mr. Jose B. Samoyoa in New York.

Dr. Jorge Veles in the Argentine Republic. Dr. Patrocinio B. Mendia in Comitan, Mexico.

Manuel Cabrera, President of Guatemala, has always a good supply of murderers on hand that he uses in those special occasions, when it becomes necessary in his opinion, to do away with somebody dangerous to himself and, in Guatemala, these gentry are popularly known as: The private executioners of the BENEMERITO DE LA PATRIA."



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